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Proceedings of the Club

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1901

This meeting was held at the Museum of the New York Botanical Garden. Dr. Allen presided. Twenty-five persons were present. Miss Delia W. Marble was chosen Secretary *pro tem*. Prof. A. D. Selby, Wooster, Ohio, was elected an active member.

The list of committees for 1901 was adopted as follows : Committee on Finance : J. I. Kane, C. F. Cox. Committee on Admissions : Cornelius Van Brunt, 319 E. 57th St., N. Y. City ; Delia W. Marble, Bedford Park, N. Y. ; John K. Small, Botanical Garden, Bronx Park. Committee on Library and Herbarium : Per Axel Rydberg, R. S. Williams, Anna M. Vail, Alexandrina Taylor. Committees on the Local Flora : Dr. N. L. Britton ; Phanerogamia, Eugene F. Bicknell, H. H. Rusby, M.D., Fanny A. Mulford ; Cryptogamia, Prof. L. M. Underwood, Marshall A. Howe, Ph.D., Mrs. Elizabeth G. Britton. Committee on Excursions, Dr. L. Schoeney, 1670 Lexington Avenue, New York City ; George V. Nash, Eugene Smith, Marie L. Sanial, Miss L. K. Lawall. Committee on Program : N. L. Britton, Marshall A. Howe, L. M. Underwood.

The scientific program followed, introduced by Dr. Britton with a paper, "On some *Senecios* of the Eastern United States."

The critical study of this genus dates from 1893, when Dr. Rusby collected in the Green Mountains a peculiar plant, described but not published in the middle of the century by Oakes, and named by him *Senecio Robbinsii*. Dr. Rusby described this plant in the BULLETIN in 1893.

While working up the genus for the Illustrated Flora in 1895-6, Professor Britton found that *Senecio aureus* of Gray's Manual included six different things, and the following species were separated :

Senecio obovatus, *S. discoideus*, *S. Balsamitae*, *S. Smallii*, *S. compactus*, *S. Robbinsii*, besides *S. aureus* with two varieties.

Dr. Britton expressed the hope that field notes on this genus would be made during the coming season.

The second paper, also by Dr. Britton, was on *Eupatorium*, and illustrated the three Linnaean species, *E. purpureum*, *E. maculatum* and *E. trifoliatum*. The first two were collected at Copake Iron Works last summer on a field excursion of the Club.

E. purpureum, with thin almost glabrous leaves, with sharp teeth, grows in woodland and copses.

E. maculatum has leaves thick and rugose with prominent veins, broader and more ovate, and not as sharply serrate as the last; stem rough and spotted; grows in open meadows.

E. trifoliatum has been found in the south, as far north as Pennsylvania; it was named by Elliott, *E. ternatum*. The essential distinction of this species is the crenate leaves; the stem is smooth, the leaves narrower and inflorescence often larger than in *E. purpureum*.

Dr. MacDougal exhibited an experiment on the force exerted in the swelling of seeds; a strong iron pipe was filled with peas and water, and a test-tube inserted in the top. In 24 hours from the time the peas were put in a pressure was registered of eight atmospheres, or 120 pounds to the square inch, the highest pressure hitherto recorded by this means. Professor Underwood called attention to the action of fleshy fungi in lifting heavy paving stones in their growth.

Dr. MacDougal also discussed malformations in *Arisaema*. He called attention to the fact that early specimens may be infested with a fungus growth which causes the hood to stand erect.

It was voted that future meetings of the Club at the Garden be held at 3:30 instead of 4 o'clock.

DELIA W. MARBLE,
Secretary pro tem.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1901

The meeting was held at the Museum of the Botanical Garden and was called to order at 4 P. M., with Dr. Allen in the chair. Dr. D. T. MacDougal was appointed secretary pro tem. Thirty persons were present.

The scientific program was presented as follows :

Dr. Marshall A. Howe gave a paper on "The Algal Genera *Acicularia* and *Acetabulum*," which is printed in full in the present issue of the BULLETIN.

The second paper, by Mrs. E. G. Britton and Miss Alexandra Taylor, was on the life-history of *Schizaea pusilla*, *Lygodium palmatum* and *Vittaria lineata*.

Living and pressed specimens were shown of all three; also microscopic preparations and drawings illustrating the gametophyte from the spore to the sporophyte in the various stages of development.

For *Schizaea pusilla* the exhibit of the life-history was very complete, and the descriptions and plates have already been published in the BULLETIN for January.

Dr. C. F. Millspaugh, of the Field Columbian Museum, Chicago, spoke briefly on the results of a recent trip to the West Indies for the purpose of studying the economic fruits of the tropics.

D. T. MACDOUGAL,
Secretary pro tem.